Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2010 with funding from
Lyrasis Members and Sloan Foundation

http://www.archive.org/details/memorialofmissdl1852dixd

[Document J.]

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

MARCH 5th, 1852.

Read and ordered to be printed.

MEMORIAL

OF

MISS D. L. DIX,

TO THE

HON. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

IN BEHALF OF THE

INSANE OF MARYLAND.

MEMORIAL

TO THE

HON. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND.

Gentlemen of the Senate
and House of Delegates:

THE subject to which your memorialist solicits your candid attention, and on which she urges early and effective legislation, embraces from more than one point of view, the civil and social interests of the State of Maryland; reaching through every community, and penetrating the seclusion of every family.

This proposition, facts, not opinions, must demonstrate.

Your memorialist presents the claims of that portion of a large, and fast increasing class for which appropriate care and protection are not now secured: she asks of Maryland, what she has not yet provided—a State Hospital which shall supply full remedial treatment for the Insane.

This question, with ever strengthening and uncompromising force, acquires, day by day, and year by year, weight and urgency, and now presents a phase so strongly defined, that no eye can be blind to the significance of the sign it exhibits, and no sound mind or humane heart, can be at fault in determining the course which a just legislation must pursue, consulting alike the rights and the necessities of individuals, and guarding the financial interests of the State.

Gentlemen, your memorialist is compelled to deal with severe facts, whose sharp outlines may not be softened by the graces of studied phrases and polished periods. With your permission she respectfully, but plainly and earnestly, brings to your knowledge, records gathered through cautious inquiry, and established by patient investigation. She asks your honest and deliberate examination of the statements and tables, which, without an elaborate preamble, are now presented, and urges impartial and fair discussion of the true merits of the cause she advocates, and which you alone, in your capacity as legislators, have authority to sustain; and she believes, humanity and justice to conduct to a successful issue.

There are but two institutions in the State of Maryland in which insane patients are brought under curative treatment; and but one, exclusively devoted to the reception of this class. Nei-

ther propose to confine their cares to citizens of Maryland; the one has at the present time, thirty-five (35) patients from the District of Columbia, sustained by government; thirty-four (34) from the city and county of Baltimore, from the indigent classes; thirty-seven (37) from other counties in the State, leaving twenty-four (24) remaining paying patients, from this and other States. Total 130, January 1st, 1852. This institution can properly accommodate but 120 patients, but by appropriating two large parlors for lodging rooms, 15 more can be received; meanwhile this accession of numbers, diminishes the comfort and trenches on the remedial means of the hospital. This institution—the first movement for establishing which was in 1798—was first opened under charge of "an attending physician and other persons," in 1807, under the title of "The Public Hospital, for the relief of Indigent Sick persons and the cure of Lunatics;" and, finally, the establishment under various restrictions and conditions at different periods, was leased by the city of Baltimore to private individuals, conditioned on being "exclusively devoted to the treatment of lunatics."

A board of visiters was appointed by the legislature in 1828—Dr. Mackenzie retaining the lease from the city, till the first of January, 1834; at which time, by act of the legislature, the hospital was taken possession of by the president and board of visiters, in the name of the State; having at the time 26 inmates. At the present date the resident physician pronounces the institution seriously incommoded by receiving a larger number than 120; and positively suffering disadvantages with 135 patients which is the maximum.

The message of the Executive for 1849, contains the following paragraph in relation to the wants of the Insane:

"Although the Hospital is now filled to its utmost capacity, there are hundreds of insane persons in the State, one hundred and twenty three of whom are in the Baltimore Alms-House, and eight in the Penitentiary, without the means of proper treatment for the mitigation or cure of the awful malady with which they are afflicted. However urgent may be the demands of humanity in behalf of this unfortunate class of persons, and however clear the obligations of society to provide for their wants, in view, nevertheless, of the proximity of the Hospital to the city of Baltimore, and the limited extent of its grounds, it is questionable whether instead of enlarging the present building, it would not be wiser and better to dispose of the establishment and employ the proceeds, with such appropriation as the Legislature may choose to make, in the purchase of a sufficient quantity of land and the erection of an Asylum upon the most modern and approved plan, adapted in all its arrangements for the comfortable accommodation, treatment and cure of insane patients, and of a style and character worthy the munificence of the State."

1852, Jan. 13. The President and Board, in a report to the General Assembly, declare their opinion, that it is not expedient to enlarge the present Hospital; which, however, they recommend to be preserved as an auxiliary institution.

I ask your attention, in closing the presentation of the above facts, illustrating the inability of the Board of Visiters of the Maryland Hospital, to afford admission for the fast increasing numbers of applicants, to the Institution at Mount Hope, in the vicinity of Baltimore, and established and conducted by a band of the Sisters of Charity; the visiting physician, Dr. W. H. Stokes, of Baltimore. The ninth Annual Report reaches the public, embodying an earnest claim on Legislative interposition, to protect it from encroachments which threaten its very existence. A petition, sustained by such arguments, as are feelingly and emphatically therein set forth, merits the impartial consideration of those who control the issues of its destiny.

Mt. Hope Hospital is not exclusively, nor mainly occupied for the treatment of insanity;—but according to its report, a majority of the patients are of that class; we make exception to 56 cases during the past twelve months, of *mania a potu*, a malady not coming rightly under the statistics of insanity, of the 102 cases admitted during the past year under varying forms of mental disease, 54 were recorded under the division of *mania a potu*. Two already were in the Hospital at the commencement of 1852. So that we have before us the record 52 discharged recovered, 2 remaining at the present date, and 2 deceased. In 1850 and '51, 70 cases were treated at Mount Hope, for this malady. The whole number of patients of all classes now remaining, is stated to be 115. Thus is shown the sole provision had in Maryland for cure of the insane.

On the first of January, 1850, according to the most correct tables I possess, we find within the limits of Baltimore city alone, 348 insane individuals: this does not include the insane in private families, either in the city or county at large, nor does it include idiots, simpletons, and epileptics,—a large class to omit.

January 1st, 1850, there were—	
In the Maryland Hospital, - - - -	133
In Mount Hope Hospital, - - - -	74
Total, under curative treatment, - -	217
In the Alms House, were - - - -	123
In the Penitentiary, - - - - -	8
Total, recorded cases in Baltimore city alone,	348

Cases in private families not noted here.

I have shown in part, the insufficiency of the Hospital Institutions at Baltimore, for meeting the wants of the citizens of Maryland, in relieving and affording curative treatment for the insane, and that these Hospitals are the sole resource of the citizens within their own borders. Briefly, that which is needed, is a new Institution capable of receiving *two hundred and fifty* patients, which is the maximum for any first class curative Hospital, and *in it* should constantly reside the medical Superintendent, whose whole time and care should be devoted to the pursuit of means for securing the comfort and recovery of his patients. Well timed employment, alternating with repose, useful labor, and suitable diversions, should be successively provided. What contrasts from these appropriate cases are presented in the condition of very many, though not the largest portion of this class throughout this State! The largest part, indeed, wear out life in adverse situations, but not in extremest abandonment to misery; that any abuses and unnecessary sufferings exist, is a sufficient argument for assuring now at once, such remedies as shall spare the repetition and perpetuation of these sore distresses.

Your memorialist knows, and all may know, that confined apartments, narrow cells, dungeons, and not seldom chains and manicles—both in private dwellings, in poor-houses, in county jails, and in the penitentiary, are the miserable alternatives, (in default of adequate Hospital provision for these unfortunates,) upon which every sentiment of justice and humanity stamps a negative. It is asked, how I know that any extreme examples of misery exist? I reply, that I have traversed the State with this express object to incite my search. I do not propose to detain you upon the detailed history of the prisons and poor-houses of Maryland, nor to break down the screen which shuts out from general inspection and curious gaze, the troubles and sufferings of many respectable but indigent families, who hide their insane in their own dwellings—for—what remedy have they? Nothing, save extremest necessity, and that only as a temporary expedient, can justify the incarceration of the insane in jails. In poor-houses, the objections though differing are equally urgent. The trustees and medical attendants, uniting with successive superintendents, in the Baltimore Alms-House, have, for years, earnestly and faithfully presented in their Annual Reports, the inhumanity and mischief resulting to all parties from this association of the demented, and the raving maniac, with the aged and infirm; the feeble and the sick; the young and the helpless; your memorialist can but add another voice of remonstrance against the perpetuation of this great abuse. I have said that the sufferings of the insane, exposed in unfit situations are great;—language, however strong, is feeble to describe them,—but I would not be understood to cast blame on superintendents of poor-houses, and keepers of jails: either they have not the means, or they have not the knowledge to

conduct rightly, one may almost say decently, the cares required by the unfortunate maniac; they abide a necessity of which they do not know how to rid themselves; and become hardened to sufferings which since they cannot remedy, they strive to forget. These men who govern poor-houses and prisons, are not cruel and brutal,—but they are wrongly *forced* to a work which every hour sears the better feelings, and which almost converts them to the rude, hard guardians, which they sometimes, by the hasty observer, are charged with being.

The establishment of a State Hospital would put an end to the continual repetition of scenes and conditions of existence which should not be suffered for a day to blemish the history of any community, nor any civilized or christian people. That this condition of things is not confined to one, three, six, or any dozen of the States, nay, that it is found now at this day, in every one of these United States, is no excuse for its toleration in any of them. Much has been done for the relief of the insane, and for lessening, by contrast, what is of minor consideration, the cost of their support to the public;—but much more remains to be accomplished. It is a fact known to all experience, that the longer a necessary work is delayed, the greater the trouble and expense in effecting it. In this case, it is beyond estimate; for who can show how many of the unhappy Insane are now but *commencing* an *existence*, in which the reason is merged in delusions and vehement ravings, and for how many dreary years life may be protracted; and, for what purposes, it becomes those who enjoy health and reason to inquire:—"Perhaps," as long since wrote a deep thinker and close observer of the course of human affairs, "these poor maniacs are a particular rent—charge on the great family of mankind;—left by the maker of us all, like younger children, who though the estate be given from them, yet the *Father expected* that the heir should take care of them."

The insane cannot be left in charge of their families, nor to the ordinary charities which flourish more or less freely in all communities: they require arrangement specially adapted to their special necessities. No domestic cares, no common modes of treating the sick; no accustomed practice of accomplished medical advisers teaches their necessities. In what these necessities consist, none can understand, except they have paused to search out the states of suffering, the entire disqualification for self-care which this malady often creates and perpetuates in the management of the unskilful and uninformed. No helpless infant can be more helpless; no wild animal of the desert more uncontrollable, than are many of these unfortunates, in different states and stages of the disease. Yet this malady, the result, in almost all instances of physical ailments, and so distressing in its effects upon the sufferer, and all with whom he is connected, is less hopeless than two-thirds of the same diseases which attack mankind. The tabular returns

of all well conducted Hospitals of these times; and the whole experience of society establishes my position.

Referring to the United States Census for 1840, we find the insane and idiot population of Maryland; recorded as 550, the entire number of citizens being 470,019. An interval of ten years has closed, and in 1850 we derive from the United States Census the following record:—Insane, 946, (it is not shown what proportion of these are a private charge,) total population 583,-035; showing an increase, supposing the returns approximate to accuracy, of 406, a ratio far exceeding the increase of the whole population, and offering the most persuasive argument for early and effectual care of recent cases; but even this large increase we know, falls within the actual amount. The supposition, that this increase, so disproportionate, may be explained by the influx of emigrants, is unsubstantial. Of the 946 which are contained in the tables of the seventh census, 63 only are foreigners by birth. And, again, 104 only are free negroes, and 96 slaves, so that we have still in Maryland 683 Anglo Americans disqualified for all the offices of civil and social obligation, by reason of mental disease;—or a total of 746 whites. The statistics of all the States exhibit rapid and fearful increase of this terrible malady. The entire number in the United States, according to the census of 1840, was 17,457, to a population of 17,069,453.

The census of 1850 gives, in a total population of 25,267,498 an insane population of nearly 25,000. Not only is this great increase of insanity an alarming fact, but tracing the tabular statements, sent abroad annually, from all hospitals for the reception and treatment of insanity in the United States, we note year by year, the increase, if not predominance of insanity in the *youthful* classes of society. Medical men of sound minds and rare skill urge vainly on the dull care of society, that *prevention* is in its power to a vast extent, and of infinite worth before *cure*, or, alas, the hazard of no cure—but the timely warnings are unheeded, and individuals, as communities, rashly multiply exciting causes, and too late deplore the inevitable results consequent on transgression of the physical laws of health and life.

I offer two tables, the first borrowed from Dr. Stokes' last Report; that which follows is taken from the last Annual Report of the Western Hospital, at Staunton, Virginia, and prepared by Dr. Stribling. I only add, that the records of other institutions exhibit large numbers of patients comparatively youthful, or in the very prime of life.

TABLE

Showing the Ages of Insane Patients, from January 1st, 1851, to January 1st, 1852:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Between 10 and 15, - - -	2	1	3
" 15 " 20, - - -	0	13	13
" 20 " 30, - - -	30	32	62
" 30 " 40, - - -	26	31	57
" 40 " 50, - - -	7	16	23
" 50 " 60, - - -	4	8	12
" 60 " 70, - - -	1	4	5
" 70 " 80, - - -	2	3	5
" 80 " 90, - - -	1	1	2
	73	109	182

This table furnishes a view of the ages of all the insane patients treated in the course of the year. No one can pass through this institution without being forcibly struck with the large number of young females, and young men, evidently belonging to the middle and higher walks of life, who are here, the subjects of insanity. The question at once presents itself to every reflecting mind, whence comes it, that so many at the tender ages of *fifteen to twenty-five*, are stricken with this heavy calamity?

Shows the Age at which Insanity is supposed to have commenced with Patients who have been in the Asylum during the year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Of those under 15 years, - -	10	7	17
between 15 and 20 years, -	23	24	47
20 " 25 " -	35	28	63
25 " 30 " -	38	28	66
30 " 35 " -	26	20	46
35 " 40 " -	14	12	26
40 " 45 " -	23	16	39
45 " 50 " -	4	9	13
50 " 60 " -	7	9	16
60 " 70 " -	2	2	4
over 80 years,	1	0	1
Unascertained,	45	23	68
	228	178	406

The report of the Mount Hope Hospital is before your Honorable Body, Dr. Stokes' sensible and eminently practical remarks, occpying the 22nd, 33rd and 24th pages, merit repeated and careful perusal. Dr. Ray states in the Report of the Butler Hospital, for 1851, "that the increasing prevalence of insanity cannot be denied;"—"of the causes which appear, in answer to our earnest inquiries, we cannot speak in detail, but there is much in our political, religious, and social usages,—calculated to disturb the balance of the mental powers, and prepare the way for unequivocal insanity;—also the eagerness, the hurry, the vehemence which constitute such prominent traits in our national character, produce a morbid irritability of the brain, but a single remove from overt disease." "The gross neglect of correct family education and discipline, and the neglect of the moral powers—those which guide the passions and determine the motives, is the crowning defect of the education of our times, ruinous in its consequences to the health both of the body and of the mind." I am compelled to omit the pages which follow these remarks; rich and strong in wisdom and truth; they are, so to say, a code of sound instructions which all need to study with care and reflection.

In adverting to one very fruitful cause of cerebral disease, I find no little difficulty, but shall adduce one example, which I might follow with a thousand, to show the *wickedness and ill-consequences of the intermarriage of blood-relations.* In a community composed of 300 families, 34 heads of families were known to be nearly allied by the ties of consanguinity. There were born to these parants ninety-five children, of whom 44 were idiotic, 12 scrofulous, 1 was deaf, and 1 was a dwarf. In one family of 8 children, 5 were idiots. Not one of the 95 could be called perfectly sound in body and mind.

Increase of insanity amongst the younger classes of society, furnishes another argument for early treatment of the malady, before disease has fastened for life, on its victim. The public safety, equity, economy and lastly humanity, require adequate, appropriate provision for the insane before the malady assumes a chronic character, and the hapless being becomes a life care to his friends, or a heavy burthen upon the public. Every man and woman possessed a sound health is wealth to the State; every individual diseased and disabled is a draft, both directly and indirectly, on its riches and prosperity. It is *cheaper to cure than it is to support*, even at the very lowest rates. I ask to show you, by positive estimate, results reached by examining, collating, and contrasting accounts gathered with careful labor.

In the Hospital at Staunton, Va, in 1842, twenty old cases had cost	$41,633 00
Average expense of old cases,	2,081 65
Whole expense of curing twenty recent cases,	1,265 00
Average expense of curing these cases,	63 25

In the Ohio State Hospita, in 1842, the whole expense of twenty-five old cases had been	$50,611 00
Average do.,	2,020 00
Whole expense of twenty-five recent cases cured,	1,130 00
Average of twenty five cured,	45 09
In the Massachusetts State Hospital, in 1843, there remained twenty-five old cases, the periods of whose insanity had varied, and all in sufficiently rigorous physical health to authorise the expectation of their living many years longer, and the cost of whose support to the public had already reached the sum of	$54,157 00
Average expense of do.,	2,166 20
The whole expense of twenty-five cases of indigent patients recovered, was	1,461 30
Average,	58 45

Thus it is seen, that while the interests of humanity, those first great obligations, are consulted by the establishment of well regulated hospitals for the insane, political economy and the public safety are not less insured. The following tables exhibit the advantage of largely extended and seasonable hospital care for the insane. I am indebted chiefly to the reports of Drs. Woodward and Awl for these carefully prepared records :

TABLE

Showing the comparitive expense of supporting old and recent cases of insanity, from which we learn the economy of placing patients in Institutions in the early periods of disease :

No. of old cases,	Present age.	Time insane, in years.	Total expense at $160 a year, before entering the hospital, & $132 a year since ; last year $120	Number of recent cases discharged.	Present age.	Time insane, in weeks.	Cost of support, at $2 30 per week.
2	69	28	$ 3,212 00	1,622	30	7	$ 16 10
7	48	17	2,004 00	1,624	34	20	46 00
8	60	21	2,504 00	1,625	51	32	73 60
12	47	25	2,894 00	1,635	23	28	64 40
18	71	24	3,794 00	1,642	42	40	92 00
19	59	18	2,204 00	1,643	55	14	32 20
21	39	15	1,993 00	1,645	63	36	82 80
27	47	16	1,994 00	1,649	22	40	92 00
44	56	26	2,962 00	1,650	36	28	64 40
45	60	25	2,835 00	1,658	36	14	32 20
102	53	25	2,833 00	1,660	21	16	36 80
133	44	13	1,431 00	1,661	19	27	62 10
176	55	20	2,486 00	1,672	40	11	25 70
209	39	16	1,964 00	1,676	23	23	52 90
223	50	20	2,364 00	1,688	23	11	25 70
260	47	16	2,112 00	1,690	23	27	62 10
278	49	10	1,424 00	1,691	37	20	46 00
319	53	10	1,247 00	1,699	30	28	64 40
347	58	14	1,644 00	1,705	24	17	39 10
367	40	12	1,444 00	1,706	55	10	23 00
400	43	14	1,644 00	1,709	17	10	23 00
425	48	13	2,112 00	1,715	19	40	92 00
431	36	13	1,412 00	1,716	35	48	110 40
435	55	15	1,712 00	1,728	52	55	126 50
488	37	17	1,912 00	1,737	30	33	75 90
		454	$54,157 00			635	$ 1,461 30

When it is remembered in addition to these facts, that there are very few acute diseases from which so large a proportion of persons attacked, fully recover, as from insanity, brought under *early and appropriate hospital treatment*, the positive obligation to meet fully this great want throughout the United States as well as in Maryland, is too plain to admit a question. *Entire and early cure of cases which are functional, not organic* ; *early cared for, and not protracted*, is the *rule* ; duration of the disease, the *exception.*

TABLE

Showing the comparative curability of a given number of cases healed at different periods of insanity, as introduced to hospital care :

	Total cases.	Total of each sex.	Cured or curable.	Not cured, or incurable.
Less than one years doration,	232			
Men, - - -		123	110	13
Women, - -		109	100	9
From one to two years duration,	94			
Men, - - -		49	31	18
Women, - -		45	32	13
From two to five years, -	109			
Men, - - -		65	18	47
Women, - -		44	18	26
From ten to fifteen years, -	76			
Men, - - -		40	5	35
Women, - -		36	4	32
From ten to fifteen years, -	56			
Men, - - -		35	2	33
Women, - -		21	1	20

An author of profound research and high intellectual endowments, in a work which was first published some years since in several foreign languages, and has since been reproduced in this country, states that "*the general certainty of curing insanity in its early stage* is a fact which ought to be universally known, and then it would be properly appreciated and acted upon by the public."

Dr. Ellis, Director of the West Riding Lunatic Hospital, England, stated in 1827, that of 312 patients admitted within three months after their first attack, 216 recovered; while, in contrast with this, he adds, that of 318 patients admitted, who had been insane for upwards of one year to thirty, only 26 recovered. In La Salpetriere, near Paris, the proportion of cures of recent cases was, in 1806-'7, according to Dr. Veitch's official statement, as nearly *two or three* cured, while only five out of 152 old cases recovered. Dr. Burrows stated, in 1820, that of recent cases under his care,, 91 in 100 recovered; and in 1828, that the annual reports of other hospitals, added to his own larger experience, confirmed the observations. Dr. Willis made to Parliment corresponding statements. At the Senavra hospital, near Milan, the same results appeared upon the annual records.

But *cure* alone, manifestly, is not the sole object of hospital care: secondary indeed, but of vast importance, is the secure and comfortable provision for that now large class throughout the country, the incurable insane. Their condition, we know, is susceptible of amelioration, and of elevation to a state of comparitive comfort and usefulness.

Perhaps no more substantial proof can be adduced of the value of well organized hospital cares, than is shown in the following extracts from Dr. Stribling's report for 1851, of the institution he directs in Western Virginia; an institution liberally sustained by the State, (as is also her other and senior hospital at Williamsburg,) and of which she may well be proud.

Among the many moral means there are none which, whilst it conduces more than any other to the contentment, health and recovery of the insane, promotes in so high a degree the pecuniary interests of the asylum, as occupation in the way of manual labor The garden, the farm and the work shops are to the males, and the needle and ordinary house work are to the females, sources of decided benefit, both intellectually and physically; and the burthen to the State of supporting so large an establishment is materially lessened by the products of labor thus employed.

Believing that abstracts from the books of the asylum, furnishing items in reference to these matters, might not be uninteresting or unprofitable, we have taken some care to have them properly made out, and herewith present them. The prices affixed are the estimates of the steward, and we consider them, to say the least, not too high.

"The products of the garden from the first day of October, 1850, to the 30th September, 1851, were as follows:

2,700	heads of early cabbage, at 4 cents per head,	$108 00
3,775	heads of late cabbage, at 4 cents per head,	151 00
1,200	heads of celery, at 3 cents per head, -	36 00
241	bushels tomatoes, at $1 per bushel, -	241 00
45	bushels green peas, at $1 per bushel, -	45 00
95	bushels turnip salad, at 50 censt per bushel,	47 50
49	bushels beets, at 50 cents per bushel, -	24 50
57	bushels snap beans, at $1 per bushel, -	57 00
20	bushels Lima beans, at $2 per bushel. -	40 00
10	bushels carrots, at 50 cents per bushel, -	5 00
51	bushels lettuce, at 25 cents per bushel, -	12 75
34	bushels turnips, at 50 cents per bushel, -	17 00
20	bushels salsify, at $1 per bushel, - -	20 00
12	bushels parsnips, at 50 cents per bushel, -	6 00
4	bushels late onions, for sets, at $3 50 per bushel,	14 00
404	dozen early onions, at 6¼ cents per dozen, -	25 25
422	dozen summer squash, at 12½ cents per dozen	52 75
395	roasting ears, at 12½ cents per dozen, -	49 37½
40	gallons raspberries ar 50 cents per gallons,	20 00
		$972 12½

In addition to the above, the hands employed on the garden, have taken care of a green-house containing a large number of plants, have attended to the transplanting of trees and shrubbery, and bestowed much labor in other ways, of which no note has been taken.

The products of the farm, including carpenters' work done by the farmer and those patients entrusted to his care, were as follows:

500 bushels corn, at 50 cents per bushel,	250 00
240 bushels potatoes, at 50 cents per bushel,	120 00
103 bushels buckwheat, at 50 cents per bushel,	51 50
9 loads fodder,	20 00
126 loads wood, at $1 75 per load,	220 50
300 dozen sheaf oats, at 25 cents per dozen,	75 00
8,000 lbs. pork, at $4 50 per hundred,	360 00
266 lbs. veal, at 6 cents per lb.,	10 64
3 calf skins, at $1 each,	3 00
6,570 gallons of milk, at 20 cents per gallon,	1,314 00
37 head of stock hogs, at $2 each,	74 00
5 head young cattle, at $10 each,	50 00
Making 115 panels plank fence, at 30 cents each,	34 50
Making and hanging 3 large gates, at $7 each,	21 00
Remodelling horse stable,	50 00
Erecting a building 80 feet long by 26 feet wide, for barn, corn-crib, flour-house, cow stable, &c., &c.,	276 50
	$2,930 64

The farmer and his assistants have done much that was useful and necessary, such as clearing woodland, hauling stone, &c., &c., not included in this statement.

The female patients have, in their appropriate sphere, been no less industrious, and their labor attended with proportionate profit, as the following statement will show:

277 men's coats, made at $1 each,	277 00
310 " pantaloons, made at 50 cents each,	155 00
257 " vests, made at 50 cents each,	128 50
25 " drawers, made at 25 cents each	6 25
216 " shirts, made at 37½ cents each,	81 00
77 " roundabouts, made at 75 cents each,	38 50
192 females' dresses, made at 37½ cents each,	72 00
212 " under dresses, made at 25 cents each,	53 00
154 " aprons, made at 12½ cents each,	19 25
71 " caps, made at 17 cents each,	6 83
88 " collars, made at 12½ cents each,	11 00
32 " night gowns, made at 25 cents each,	8 00
60 pair stockings, knit at 37½ cents each,	22 50
Carried forward,	$878 83

Brought forward,	$878 83
360 pair socks, knit at 25 cents each, - -	90 00
98 pair socks, footed at 18¾ cents each, -	18 37½
408 handkerchiefs and towels, hemmed at 6¼ cents each,	25 50
11 mattress ticks, made at 75 cents each, -	8 25
68 mattress slips, made at 25 cents each, -	17 00
142 pillow ticks and cases, made at 12½ cents each,	17 75
4 bed ticks, made at 37½ cents each, - -	1 50
84 bolster ticks and cases, made at 12½ cents each,	10 50
213 sheets and bed spreads, made at 25 cents each,	53 25
25 comforts, made at $1 each, - - -	25 00
8 bed quilts, pieced and quilted, at $3 each,	24 00
94 curtains for windows, made at 25 cents each,	23 50
7 carpets, made up at $1 50 cents each -	10 50
2,974 pieces of clothing, mended at 3 cents each,	89 22
Amount of fancy work, made and sold, proceeds to be applied to completing chapel, - - -	77 00
Total, - - - -	$1,370 07½

SHOE SHOP.

The new work and mending done amounts to		$1,021 73
Contra.		
The cost of material used, - - -	$114 21	
The wages of foremen 12 months, - -	252 00	
The dieting of do. do. at $8 per mo.,	96 00	
		762 21
Profit, - - -		$259 52

This statement cannot exhibit the *saving* to the institution, as from the convenience of having such a shop, shoes are often mended so soon as they need it; whereas, if they had to be sent elsewhere it would be deferred, notwithstanding the admonition of Dr. Franklin, that "a stitch in time saves nine," until the expense of repairing would be greatly increased, or the shoe be rendered useless. Our patients, both male and female, have uniformly been well supplied with shoes. The servants, numbering about thirty, get, under a rule of the institution, two pair each per annum; and the whole cost for the year of having supplied the wants in this respect of more than four hundred patients and thirty servants, has only been seven hundred and sixty-two dollars and fifty-two cents.

HAT SHOP.

The hats for patients who are supplied by the State, and for the servants, are made by one of the attendants, with such aid as his patients can afford him. Not less than two hundred and fifty

patients and thirty servants have been provided for during the year, at a cost to the institution of not more than one hundred and thirty-five dollars. The hats are made of coney and cotton—are neat, durable and comfortable—superior greatly in all respects to the wool hat, which, if purchased at wholesale, would cost considerably more than is expended under our present arrangement.

It is not *occupation* alone, but *useful employment*, that so eminently assists other remedial moral means for the restoration of the patient. Hence the value of a productive farm or plantation, on which those who are able, and whose early habits permit, may find in labor, not the curse, but the inestimable blessing of well-directed toil; due exercise of the physical powers, and occupied attention, recalling the disturbed and distracted mind to the integrity of sound health.

I have endeavored to prove the advantages to be possessed by hospital treatment for the insane. I have tried to illustrate the disadvantages of domestic care and prescription for this suffering class of our fellow-beings. I have glanced at the inefficiency and cruelty of a poor-house and prison residence for the epileptic and the maniac. In imagination, for a short time, place yourselves in their stead. Enter the horrid noisome cell; invest yourselves with the foul tattered garments which scantily serve the purposes of decent covering; cast yourself upon the loathsome pile of filthy straw, find companionship in your own cries and groans, or in the wailings and gibberings of wretches miserable like yourselves; call for help and release, for blessed words of soothing, and kind offices of care till the dull walls weary in sending back the echo of your moans; then, if your self-possession is not overwhelmed under the *imagined* miseries of what are the *actual* distresses of the insane, return to the consciousness of your sound intellectual health, and answer if you will longer refuse or delay to make adequate appropriation for the establishment of a hospital for the care and cure of those who are deprived of the use of their reasoning faculties, and who are incapable of exercising a rational judgment.

Of all men, they are to be counted the most miserable, who are reduced to mere animal existence.

In asking for the establishment of a State Hospital for the Insane in Maryland, located to assure, through *salubrity of air*, *abundance of pure water*, *a productive farm*, and *open access*, by *far reaching lines of travel*, the largest good to the largest numbers, your memorialist is sustained by the opinions of all the citizens of the State *who have had time and opportunity of studying the subject fully*, and of examining its claims. By none is this more earnestly desired than by the physician of the Maryland Hospital, and the President of that Institution, that good man and good citizen, who, for 24 years, without reward or recompense, "hoping all things, und seeking not his own," has spared neither time, nor labor, nor that which most men give least readily and latest, large

pecuniary aid to keep in existence and useful operation the oldest charitable and humane institution in the State of Maryland. *Non immemor tanti beneficii!*

It is not improbable that some members of your Honorable Body, men, too, of good hearts and liberal minds, will hesitate, if not seriously demur to a measure they will admit to be important, and opening strong claims on their efficient support and official action, but who will urge the large indebtedness of the State as an argument against new plans for the application of the puclic funds. I respect their cautiousness and hesitation. The monetary obligations of the State are heavy; taxation is already onerous; but will these be lessened by the omission to provide by creating a State Hospital for the Insane of the State, for those *who must be supported*, in some way, during the period of their natural lives. In hundreds of cases, if not thousands, it rests on *your* decision, Legislators of Maryland, whether this shall be accomplished at a *heavy* or *light* cost to the State. The time-worn adage, —"Honesty is the best policy," Maryland has engraven on her shield, and the citizens stand firm, as honest men, on the strong rock of Integrity, honored and honorable, each lends his strength to redeem the State from the heavy burthens of her debt. And is the rich man less affluent, or the poor man the poorer, for coming up boldly to this work? No, no, they have struck the vein of the pure gold of virtue, and are enriched by treasures that "moth and rust do not corrupt." And does the legislator argue that being true to the principles of honesty, he may stand acquitted of other obligations? No, there is another law to which he will pay tribute;—in "doing justice," he will "*remember mercy.*" And, again, he will not consent that sister States, younger and feebler, by reason of earlier years, should take precedence of his maternal Maryland. See Alabama—honest and resolved, she provides for full payment of her monetary obligations, and at the same time assumes cheerfully the debt she owes humanity; owning the wardship of her insane children—she appropriates $100,000 00 for a State Hospital, and is earnest only to advance to completion the work so well and wisely commenced. Look at Indiana—noble, clear-sighted Indiana—honest and true; liberal and wise!—But few years since, Indiana made provision for the gradual payment of nearly twelve millions of dollars of her public debt, and being instructed in the necessity of timely provision for the insane, the deaf mutes and the blind within her borders,—she adopted a wise and noble policy, equally prudent and humane; and levied a special tax for the erection of edifices for the insane, for the deaf mute and the blind, at a cost of more than $200,000, and provided for the ample support of all these; and a section in the new Constitution lays down a principle, and establishes a law for the perpetual support of these three charities by the State.

There, in the young State of Indiana, almost within the

shadow of her Capitol at Indianapolis, stand these monuments of a christian and enlightened age, recording a foremunificence, which, under the circumstances has no paralled, though Illinois, ranging side by side geographically, almost completes a corresponding page in *her* history. Shall Maryland falter, solicited by more urgent incentives to determine her decisions and to quicken her energies?—Surely she will not!

No truth in ethics is more surely established than this;—not one human being, whether of high or low degree, strong or weak, learned or unlearned, conspicuous or humble, old or young, in the full fresh vigor of health, or feeble through weakness, but is vulnerable to the attacks of maniacal insanity. The man of most mighty intellect, the woman endowed with rarest virtues, may in an hour become the beneficiery of humanity;—the hapless ward of heart-stricken kindred, helpless alike to restore and cherish. The precious home no longer offers health-giving influences; the cares and caresses of dearest friends but enhance the miseries of this terrible malady. "Lover and friend it puts far away, and acquaintances into darkness." The well-organized, well-sustained Hospital alone opens its portals for shelter and relief. The skill which directs appropriate care, here dissipates the delusions which distract; and heals the sickness which other direction could not arrest.

Legislators of Maryland, importunity urged by the sacred voice of unerring Duty, presses this cause upon your notice;—you who fill places of authority,—forget not, amidst the heat of debate, the clash of opinions, and the sometimes strife for political distinctions, forget not the majesty of your station, the dignity and sacredness of that trust confided to you by your constituents; forget not that you have the right and the means of exercising the enobling offices of justice, humanity, and civil obligation. Becoming through your station as legislators, benefactors of the needy, whose mental darkness, through your action, may be dispersed, how many prayers and blessings from grateful hearts will enrich you! As your work on earth shall be measured, and your last hours shall be slowly numbered; when the review of life's deeds become more and more searching, amidst the lashes of uncompromising memories, how consoling will be the remembrance that of many transactions,—often controlling, transient and outward affairs,—frequently conducting to disquieting results,—possibly sometimes to those of doubtful good, you have accomplished a work whose results of widely diffused benefits, create a light brightening your path through "the dark valley," and conducting you to those "gates of eternal life" which open upon "the blessed mansions" in which the finite faculties are beyond the reach of blight, and advance continually in knowledge, to perfection! Respectfully submitted,

D. L. DIX.

Annapolis, February 24th, 1852.